

# The Great American Clean Up in Tennessee's Rivers

## The Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association

Keep America Beautiful's Great American Cleanup is the nation's largest annual community improvement program. Each year over 1,200 affiliates and participating organizations engage volunteers to take action in their communities through programs that deliver positive and lasting impacts.

One of the greatest examples in our state of citizens committed to this annual event is the partnership Keep Tipton County Beautiful affiliate Friends of the Hatchie chapter of the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association (TSRA).

The Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association (TSRA) is a volunteer organization dedicated to the preservation, protection and restoration of the scenic, free-flowing rivers of our state. Based in Nashville, Tennessee, the organization has approximately 1,000 members across the state and the south.

In 2009, 2011 and 2012 Keep Tipton County Beautiful and TSRA Friends of the Hatchie partnered with other local agencies to conduct three unique clean-up events. These clean ups lead to over 40 miles of the Hatchie River being cleaned of nearly 3,000 pounds of garbage, 1,000 pounds of which were actually recycled by the Haywood County recycling program.

In the most recent clean up event there was even a competition for the most unique item recovered from the river. The two part award consisted of a battered duck decoy riddled by steel shot and a one year subscription to the *Tennessee Conservationist* magazine.

The winning participant recovered a wayward floating lounge chair intended for use in a swimming pool.

Local partnerships with committed citizens in every county have made Keep Tennessee Beautiful events a tremendous success.

If you or your local group would like to conduct or participate in the Great American Clean Up, please contact your local Keep America Beautiful affiliate or refer to the following web address:

[Great American Cleanup™ of Tennessee 2013 Planning Form](#)

## Facts about the Great American Clean Up

- The Great American Clean Up has nearly 1,200 affiliates nationwide.
- In 2012, 4.2 million Great American Cleanup volunteers worked tirelessly to return nearly \$230 million in measurable benefits in 20,000 communities across the country. In 2012 Tennessee had a 100% participation rate by each county in the Great American Clean Up.

